

Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecott Parish Council held on Thursday 27th October 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present 2022/58 Cllr MacDermott (Chair), Bennett, Kendrick, Parker and Wood, Mrs Medwell (Clerk), County Cllr Andrew Brown and 2 members of the public.

Apologies 2022/59 Cllr McCole - Approved

Declarations 2022/60 Cllr Wood declared an interest in item 2022/54 (c)
There were no changes to the Member's Register of Interests.

Open Forum and Exchange of Information 2022/61 Speeding, the need for zebra crossings and the lack of repeater 30 mph signs through the village were raised. A discussion took place on how best these issues could be addressed and whether the Council should consider the possibility of obtaining independent professional advice on what would be practicable in terms of the crossings, mitigating speeds and diverting the HGV traffic away from the village and along the A43

The problem for residents living along the main road charging their electric vehicles was also raised. County Cllr Brown will refer back to RCC to see if and how this may be resolved. **AB**

Overgrown vegetation from a property on The Green, which was obscuring the streetlight, was brought to the Council's attention. The Clerk will write to the landowner requesting this is cut back. **JM**

Meeting closed to the public.

Minutes 2022/59 The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st July 2022 were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair

Proposed Cllr Bennett Seconded Cllr MacDermott

Matters Arising 2022/60 The Chair has sited the key safe, containing the keys to the bollards on Church Lane, on the village hall. Cllr Parker will arrange the notice for the village hall advertising the names of those holding the code for the safe. These will include Cllrs MacDermott and Bennett and two members of the village hall committee. **AP**

Council Vacancies 2022/61 **Co-option of New Councillor** - The Council **agreed** to co-opt Mrs Susan Wood to fill the casual vacancy arising from the resignation of Cllr White.

Proposed Cllr MacDermott Seconded Cllr Bennett All in favour

Cllr Wood duly completed and signed the Members Register of Interest and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the clerk.

Highways 2022/51 **Footpath** – It was noted that Great Easton Parish Council had agreed to raise with Harborough District Council the possibility of instating a footpath along the B6003 towards Rockingham, on land that falls under Leicestershire jurisdiction. The Clerk will follow up on this and also contact the portfolio holder for Leicestershire Highways to gauge support on the matter. **JM/AB**

RCC Response to Village Walkabout – The highways inspector for the area confirmed the following in April 2022:

- 1. Footways - There were no obviously bad footways that would require immediate intervention found on the last inspection.

- Two areas have been highlighted to resurface this year, a small section on the Uppingham Road opposite the Church and a longer section on the Main Street from the Plough Public House back to the B672 junction (LHS). These areas have been scarred by utilities and are showing the expected surface course deterioration.
- We can confirm the resurfacing work is programmed for 2022/23 and combined with other work requiring a road closure with completion prior to winter subject to weather conditions etc.
- 2. Installation of a new pedestrian crossing facility - The area has been surveyed by the Highways Engineer, however there is not the sufficient room required at the footways to permit a compliant crossing facility at a suitable point that would be used. There is also a restriction on any central refuge islands given the A6003 is a wide load route.

The Council expressed its frustration with the response regarding the suitability of the road for zebra crossings and **agreed** to carry out its own research on the necessary requirements. Cllr Parker undertook to look at government legislation on this.

AP

Following much discussion, the Council **agreed** to follow up on the community speed watch programme and will contact the Safer Roads team to request a traffic survey so that the exact speeds and number of vehicles, particularly HGV's travelling through the can be established in the first instance.

JM/AB

HGV Traffic – This item was covered.

Village Speed Deterrent Options – This item was covered.

Children's Play Park 2022/52

Routine Inspection – It was noted that the annual inspection with Seagrave had been booked for the beginning of December at the same cost as last year. The Council will review the grass cutting contract as part of the budget setting process.

Fundraising Signage – The Council **agreed** the wording of sign which incorporated the QR Code for the 'CPC Just Giving' account set up so that users of the play park may donate towards its upkeep if they wished. These signs will be fixed on the benches in the play park and the project trialled for efficacy.

Proposed Cllr Parker Seconded Cllr MacDermott All in favour

Specific Items 2022/53

Damage to Parish Assets – The Council noted that Tesco had agreed the £1,200 to replace the damaged bench. This was yet to be received, the Clerk will chase this up. The Council discussed renewing the concrete base at a cost of £200.

JM

It was also noted that RCC had replaced the posts on the Green which had been damaged during a separate incident. The Clerk will contact the company responsible for this incident to ask whether they would consider a contribution of £200 for the damage which would offset the cost of the concrete base.

AM
JM

The Council **agreed** to instruct the contractor to replace the bench and concrete base as soon possible ahead of receiving the funds.

Village Volunteers – There was nothing further to report on this item at present.

Budgets 2023/24 – Preliminary discussions took place on the budgets for next year. Whilst the Council was mindful of the current economic climate, it acknowledged the need to budget effectively and to build on reserves which were currently below the recommended amount. The final draft budget will be presented to the Council for approval at the next meeting.

**Planning
2022/54**

a) 2022/0952/FUL 41 Main Street Alterations to include glazed walkway and carport (for information) The Council had previously considered this application and had no objection.

b) 2022/0646/FUL Land adjacent to Fairchild's Lodge Revised plans for 3 new dwellings (for information) The Council had previously considered this application and had no objection.

c) 2022/1148/LBA 8 Main Street Single storey rear garden room extension
The Council considered this application and had no objection.

**Finance
2022/55**

a) The following payments were presented for approval and unanimously agreed.

J Medwell - Clerk August Salary and Expenses - £263.44

NEST – Clerk August Employer and Employee Pension - £18.48

J Medwell - Clerk September Salary and Expenses - £263.44

NEST – Clerk September Employer and Employee Pension - £18.48

J Medwell - Clerk October Salary and Expenses - £263.44

NEST – Clerk October Employer and Employee Pension - £18.48

BIFFA – Bin emptying - £39.00

Curtis Website Design - £135.00

Amazon – Key safe - £15.49

CHT – Defib Pads - £115.20

Amazon – Ink Cartridge - £24.98

b) Bank Reconciliation

Lloyds Account £7,082.50

Total Balance of Reserves £7,082.50

The Bank Reconciliation was unanimously approved and then duly signed by the Chair.

c) To approve External Auditor Appointment Arrangements. The Council **agreed** to remain opted into the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments (SAAA) which procures external audit on behalf of all parishes in England.

Proposed Cllr MacDermott Seconded Cllr Kendrick All in favour

All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on www.caldecott-pc.gov.uk

**Correspondence
2022/56**

There was no further correspondence discussed.

**Next Meeting
2022/57**

The next meeting of Caldecott Parish Council will be held on Thursday 12th January 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm